

(19)



Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

**EP 1 108 533 A1**

(12)

# EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:

20.06.2001 Bulletin 2001/25

(51) Int Cl.7: **B41C 1/10**

(21) Application number: 00311078.0

(22) Date of filing: 12.12.2000

(84) Designated Contracting States:

AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU  
MC NL PT SE TR

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(71) Applicant: **KONICA CORPORATION**  
Tokyo (JP)

(72) Inventor: **Mori, Takahiro**  
Hino-shi, Tokyo 191-8511 (JP)

(30) Priority: 17.12.1999 JP 35896999  
13.09.2000 JP 2000277926

(74) Representative: **Eddowes, Simon et al**  
Urquhart-Dykes & Lord,  
30 Welbeck Street  
London W1G 8ER (GB)

(54) **Printing plate element and preparation method of printing plate**

(57) A printing plate element is disclosed, comprising a substrate and a component layer containing a first material which is water-insoluble or capable of varying from being water-soluble to being water-insoluble at a prescribed temperature of not less than 60° C and a sec-

ond material which is water-soluble and has a melting point of 60 to 300° C. A method of preparing a printing plate is also disclosed, comprising imagewise exposure of the printing plate element and removing an unexposed area of the printing plate element with aqueous solution.

**FIG. 1**

